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metroNEWS

YOUTUBE SCREENSHOT

Rec programs too costly for newcomers

BARRIERS

Immigrants in Toronto need better access, says director

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Immigrant youth are stuck on the sidelines when it comes to accessing recreation programs in Toronto because they're too expensive.

That's the conclusion of a new report from Social Planning Toronto, which examines barriers faced by young newcomers.

"Despite the many benefits of recreation, newcomer youth participate at much lower rates compared to their peers," the study notes.

With thousands of new Syrians settling in the city, Social Planning Toronto's director, Sean Meagher, says it's time for that to change. "It helps with language learning, it connects people outside of their existing social networks and contributes to social development," he said.

High user fees and the cost of things like uniforms or insurance can be prohibitive for recent immigrants, Meagher said. Registering for programs can also be hard for families without Internet access or a credit card.

THE NUMBERS

According to Social Planning Toronto, 32 per cent of children whose parents were recent immigrants participated in sports, compared to 55 per cent of children whose parents were born in Canada.

The city offers some free rec programming for low-income families, and Meagher wants to see that expanded.

Seble Seyifesilase came to Toronto from Ethiopia two years ago. The 17-year-old credits recreation programs offered at nearby Queen Victoria school with helping her find her feet in a new country.

In particular, Seyifesilase said they improve her English skills and help her succeed in school.

"I used to get nervous whenever there was a presentation to do," she said. "But now I'm confident and I can present in front of the whole class."

Meagher applauded the city's parks and recreation department for its work with Syrian refugees, such as preparing more multilingual pamphlets, and said he'd like to see similar policies applied to other immigrant communities.

Strike threat to program sign-ups, page 9

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Scientists discover the gene that makes us go grey. **World**

INGERSOLL

T.O. told not to send its garbage

The mayor of a southwestern Ontario town known for cheddar has sharp words for Toronto: Keep your garbage to yourself.

Ted Comiskey, mayor of Ingersoll, told the public-works committee that Toronto's long-term waste strategy should not include burying trash in a quarry next to his town. Toronto's current landfill, Green Lane near London, is expected to be full by 2029.

A city staff update suggests Green Lane's life could be extended by increased waste diversion and new technologies to deal with trash, but the timelines mean the city shouldn't rule out continued burying.

Ted Comiskey
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"Every landfill liner leaks," Comiskey said Tuesday. "I am not prepared to put the drinking water of my citizens, my neighbours, at risk."

After the presentation, Coun. Anthony Perruzza asked Comiskey: "What are your best cheeses out there?"

"It's come to this, has it?" the Ingersoll mayor said, laughing.

Toronto's final long-term waste strategy will go to public works in June and city council in July. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bike Share may expand outside downtown core

TRANSPORTATION

Pilot seeks to test viability across GTA, Hamilton

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Cyclists throughout the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area may soon see Toronto's bike-share stations popping up in their neighbourhoods.

The Toronto Parking Authority, which runs Bike Share, is asking city council for permission to expand the network outside city limits.

Right now, the network stops at Ossington Avenue in the west, Parliament Street to the east and Bloor Street to the north. The parking authority is also planning an expansion within the city in the next couple of months.

Moving outside Toronto would come after that, with bike stations placed at transportation and shopping hubs throughout the GTHA, said Marie Casista, a vice-president of the Toronto Parking Authority.

All cities involved would need to sign off.

"It would be a pilot project," Casista said. "Whether we'll be able to operate successfully there, we're not sure yet, but we're certainly going to give it a try."

The regional plans are part of a $4.9-million deal the parking authority signed with Metrolinx, said Casista. Metrolinx is buying bikes and bike docks, and the parking authority will operate them within Bike Share.

For now, the parking authority would like to see Presto cardholders get a discount on Bike Share memberships.

In the long-term, the agencies are exploring the use of Presto cards for payment and fare integration.

Hamilton already has a bike share operating, and the parking authority would like to work alongside it, Casista said.

UPGRADE

In the next couple of months, the Toronto Parking Authority plans to announce that it's chosen new technology to be used on Bike Share.

The bikes and docking stations in use now are no longer available to buy and date back to when the city took over from the now-defunct Bixi.

City officials say **Bike Share works best for short trips** in areas with high density. They're ready, though, to test its popularity in areas outside the core. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

Toronto man asks for assisted death

CONSTITUTION

80-year-old cancer patient to seek legal exemption

In what is probably the first case of its kind in Ontario, a terminally ill Toronto man will soon ask a judge for a physician-assisted death.

If allowed, it would be only the second known instance outside Quebec where an application to have an assisted death has been granted since the Supreme Court gave the federal government an extension earlier this year to craft new legislation.

The man — identified only as A.B. in court documents — will be bringing an application for a constitutional exemption before a Superior Court judge later this month, his lawyer, Andrew Faith, has confirmed.

"An application of this kind requires that we carefully safeguard our client's privacy," he said.

A.B. is an 80-year-old man with advanced-stage aggressive lymphoma. His request follows that of an Alberta woman suffering from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, who was granted a constitutional exemption by a Calgary judge last week to have an assisted death. She died with the help of physicians in British Columbia soon after the ruling.

A.B. will be asking Justice Thomas McEwan on Thursday for permission to proceed with his application anonymously.

"As a result of this irremediable condition, I am suffering intolerable pain and distress that cannot be alleviated," A.B. says in an affidavit, indicating that he is bringing the application for a constitutional exemption with the support of his family, physicians and a psychiatrist.

His case comes amid heated debate on the issue and just three months before the government must produce legislation in line with the Supreme Court's 2015 decision striking down the Criminal Code prohibitions on physician-assisted death as unconstitutional.

> Our society has crossed the boundary into dangerous territory.
> Cardinal Thomas Collins

On Wednesday, the Catholic Archbishop of Toronto issued a statement pressing for the "protection of conscience and the vulnerable."

"Once we make people's worthiness to live dependent on how well they function, our society has crossed the boundary into dangerous territory in which people are treated as objects that can be discarded as useless," Cardinal Thomas Collins said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE, WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

GERRARD AND YONGE

Man beaten in street attack

A young man says he was beaten in front of his apartment Monday night, allegedly after mistakenly being tagged as gay.

Sheng Yan, 26, was returning from a grocery run around 11:30 p.m. when he saw two men near his building on Gerrard Street east of Yonge Street.

One was "kicking signage" and yelling as Yan walked by, Yan told the Star.

"I can't believe we were seen as a gay couple," Yan says the man shouted to the other man, before turning on him.

"He said, 'Do we look gay to you? 'cause you look pretty gay to me.' "I turned around and before I could say anything, they grabbed my hair, pulled me to the ground and started hitting and kicking my face," Yan told Torstar News Service.

He believes he was struck about 15 times, mostly by one individual, before passersby approached and the duo fled.

Yan said he called 911 and an ambulance crew took him Mount Sinai Hospital. He said doctors told him he had suffered internal bleeding around his right eye, with scratched eyelids and temporarily reduced vision.

Const. David Hopkinson said Toronto police are investigating the incident. The suspect had not been located as of Wednesday night, he said.

Sheng Yan sustained a bruise to his right eye. CONTRIBUTED

Yan, who posted a Facebook photo of himself showing his eyelid virtually swollen shut, says he's received many messages of support, some from strangers.

"It's very heartwarming."

He said the fact that he identifies as straight has little bearing on the incident. "Anyone can be a victim. You can just be assaulted if you're picked out."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Higher learning

TDSB

Schools going vertical as city gets more crowded

In some densely populated areas of the city, schools may soon have nowhere to go but up.

The Toronto District School Board is looking at putting classrooms into high-rise buildings, an idea dubbed "vertical schools." The concept could see students with their heads quite literally in the clouds within the next decade.

It would be a first for Canada and could be in place by 2024, school board officials say.

"We haven't done this before. We haven't needed to do this. But we have areas of town right now… where we're running out of capacity," said Jeff Latto, senior manager of major capital projects and building partnerships.

Some areas of the city, such as Yonge-Eglinton, have such a high density of students and no space left in schools that students are going to school outside their ward, said Shelley Laskin, TDSB trustee for Ward 11, St. Paul's.

In some neighbourhoods, the board can reopen a closed school or put in portables. Ideally, it would build a new school. But in other areas, such as Laskin's, those options are not possible, she said.

"The schools are already full. They're on small sites … and there's no closed school to reopen," she said.

> The schools are already full.
> TDSB trustee Shelley Laskin

A solution the TDSB is now looking at would involve mixing schools with new developments. Though the board hasn't decided what exactly these schools would look like as the program is still in its early stages, Laskin and Latto had similar ideas.

Laskin said she could imagine putting satellite campuses — most likely early elementary-school grades — into designated floors of a building. The satellite schools would carry the name of their larger counterpart elsewhere in the city, have a separate entrance into the building and ideally access to a fenced area outside with a playground, she said.

"You would be taking one or two floors of that condo.… You would actually have to be working with the developer at the very early stages," she said.

Toronto already has a school connected to condo buildings, North Toronto Collegiate Institute. But Latto said, it's not quite an example of what they're envisioning for vertical schools. For one, the school board owned the property where the school sits, and a development was built around it.

"It's different when we try to get space within a condominium or a mixed-use building that we don't own. Up until now we've always owned our own sites," he said.

Latto expects to deliver a report to the board in June, which will have more details on the logistics of building vertical schools, he said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

View of the Heritage Court and condo at the new North Toronto Collegiate. The school was built on the site of the old one, but part of the property was sold to Tridel for a condo.
ANDREW WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

HOMELESSNESS

24-hour shelters in demand

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

An early look at intake numbers from drop-in centres offering 24-hour service are proof the program should be expanded, one councillor says.

St. Felix Centre served more than 12,000 people in the first two months of the year, while more than 13,000 homeless people visited Margaret's Toronto East. In previous winters, when the centres were only open during extreme weather, the number of users ranged anywhere from 5,000 to 10,000.

Coun. Joe Cressy, who spearheaded the push to open drop-ins around the clock during January and February, says more needs to be done.

"Just these two centres are insufficient at the moment," he said.

City council has earmarked $460,000 to repeat the program next winter. The more sustainable solution, Cressy said, is heavy investment in transitional and affordable housing.

Caplansky's deli expanding again

FOOD

GM says plans are in place for multiple stores

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Thunderin' Thelma in all her glory. CAPLANSKYS.COM

Caplansky's deli is widening its reach.

The eatery, a staple of the College and Bathurst area for nearly seven years, is looking at a serious expansion, starting with a new location in Yorkville this spring.

Multiple stores are planned across Toronto and the GTA in the coming months, said general manager Hunter Robinson.

"We've been building momentum for some time now," Robinson said. "Even some restaurants — whom I won't name — have been asking us to open a small restaurant within theirs. So it's definitely about time."

Owner Zane Caplansky opened the restaurant in 2009 with the aim of reviving the traditional Jewish deli.

In 2011, the business was among the first in Toronto to launch a food truck. Its iconic Thunderin' Thelma has been going strong ever since.

The success of two outlets operating at Pearson airport since 2014 is a major factor in the planned expansion, Robinson said.

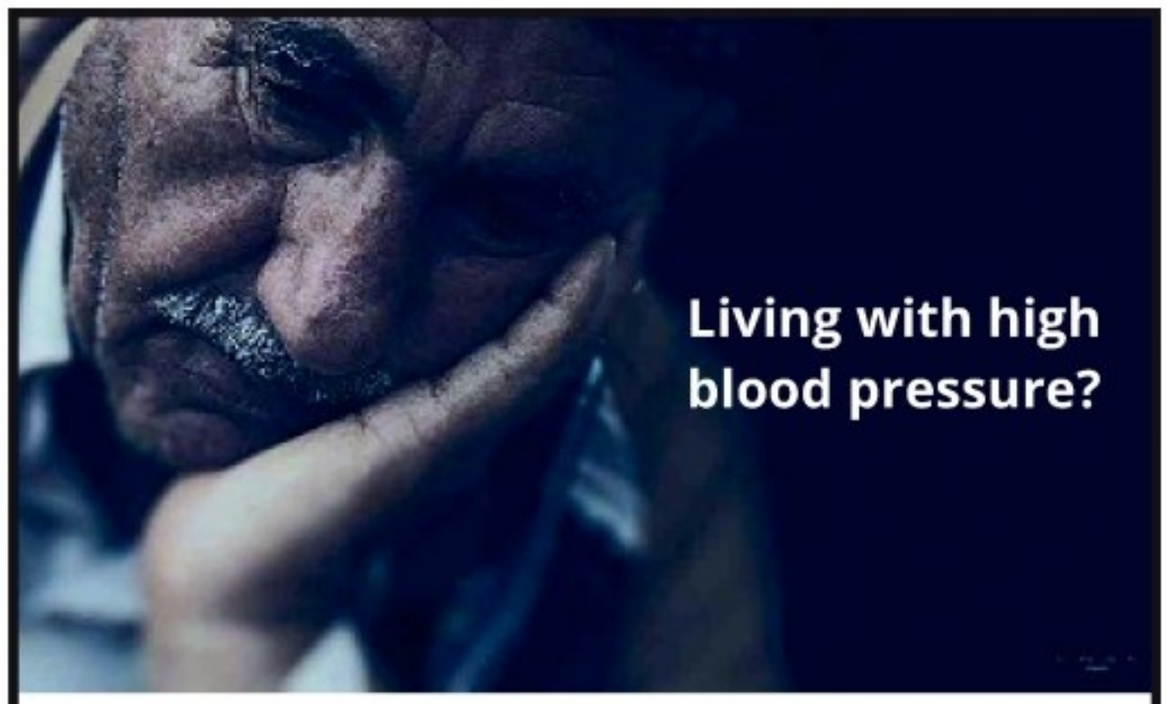
"We want to continue catering for the quick in-and-out customers without sacrificing the family vibe and hospitality we're known for," Robinson said.

FOOD TRUCK

Caplansky's Deli is selling its Thunderin' Thelma food truck — with the aim of buying a brand new one to continue serving people on the streets.

An ad on Kijiji says the recognizable truck will need "a bit of gas work" but implores potential buyers not to turn around and sell it for parts.

"It would 'brake' my heart," the ad reads.



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Students need to do their snow-day math

WEATHER

Cancellations are rare despite disappointed scholars' tweets

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Toronto students complaining about the lack of snow days may want to take a refresher course in statistics.

Upset at having to trudge through about 10 centimetres of snow to get to school Wednesday morning, hundreds of disgruntled students took to social media to voice their disappointment. "Please just cancel one day of school because of snow before spring starts," pleaded one student.

"If I die on the way to school, have a snow day every year on this day in my honour," tweeted another. The staff behind the Toronto District School Board's Twitter account turned the tide of complaints into a teachable moment, informing students there's only been one snow day in the last 10 years.

"The decision to close down the entire system is not something we take lightly," said TDSB spokesman Ryan Bird. "If we shut down, we know that tens of thousands of parents will be hard pressed to find child care. That's why we always strive to keep schools open." The last time the board shut down schools was Feb. 2, 2011. Even then it wasn't really necessary, Bird told Metro.

"It was a pre-emptive thing because the forecast was calling for horrible snow … but by mid-morning it was all sunshine," he said. "We tried to be proactive, but it just didn't pan out."

Compared to other parts of the GTA, Toronto is often spared the "brunt" of winter storms, Bird said. That was certainly the case Wednesday, as the city saw less accumulation than other areas. However, even in Peel Region, there are only about one or two snow days per year, said school board spokeswoman Carla Pereira. Bus service was cancelled in Peel on Wednesday, but schools were still open. Not all students — especially those from rural areas — were expected to make it, Pereira said.

Toronto also cancelled buses, which are used by only 10 per cent of the city's students.

Tuesday's snowstorm that left people digging out early Wednesday wasn't enough to cancel Toronto schools' classes. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Officials with the Toronto District School Board and the Peel School Board said snowy days are the busiest days for them on social media.

Staff were busy Wednesday morning, tweeting back and forth with students about the snow. There were jokes, memes, animated .gifs and more than a few Drake references involved.

"Students can be very supportive — or not — depending on the decision," said Peel School Board spokeswoman Carla Pereira. "But we try to defuse any negativity using humour."

Strike threat to sign-ups

INSIDE WORKERS

Workers' action could impact kids' rec programs

An inside workers' strike or lockout in coming days could wreak havoc for parents planning kids' recreation programs, March break plans and summer camps.

City spokesperson Wynna Brown confirmed a CUPE Local 79 work stoppage would postpone registration for city-run spring-summer recreation programs. The telephone, online and in-person sign-ups are set for Saturday for Etobicoke, Sunday for Scarborough, Tuesday for North York and next Wednesday for downtown-East York.

Spring registration is especially busy because it includes summer camps, which are relatively inexpensive and fill up quickly. Last March, parents competed to complete 194,149 registrations.

The ongoing work-to-rule campaign by more than 20,000 city workers, amid a contract negotiations standoff between Local 79 and the city, should not impact the registrations, Brown said.

The workers' contract expired Dec. 31. Outside workers in Local 416 have approved a contract that hikes pay 5 per cent over four years, cuts some benefits and phases out an ironclad job-security provision.

Local 79 president Tim Maguire has said that contract does not work for his members, half of whom are part-time or full-time temporary. Talks broke down on the weekend after the city promised some improvements but warned it was a "final" offer.

CUPE said it is awaiting word from the city on its response to the offer tabled Saturday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Fun at a Toronto summer camp, but fun might be harder to find soon. MARTA IWANEK/TORONTO STAR

SIU PROBE

Police officer faces sex assault charge

A Toronto police officer has been charged with sexual assault after a probe by Ontario's Special Investigations Unit.

The SIU says the charge is related to an incident that allegedly began around 1 a.m. on Sept. 24, 2015, in Toronto's Entertainment District.

According to the SIU, a police officer picked up a 27-year-old woman near Wellington St. and Blue Jays Way, and drove her to her home in his police vehicle.

The woman alleges she was sexually assaulted on the way, the SIU said in a statement released Wednesday.

Sgt. Christopher Heard faces one count of sexual assault.

Heard is scheduled to appear in court on April 14.

The SIU is an independent provincial body that investigates incidents involving police that result in death, serious injuries or allegations of sexual assault.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Energy program praised

Accolades have started flowing in for a Toronto program helping people make their homes more energy efficient.

The Home Energy Loan Program (HELP) provides low-interest loans up to $25,000 to undertake projects like upgrading insulation and replacing old furnaces.

HELP was honoured for reducing energy use by an average of 25 per cent.

GILBERT NGABO/METRO

Cocaine seized at Pearson

The Canada Border Services Agency says it has seized about 118 kilograms of cocaine at Pearson International Airport.

In a release Wednesday, the agency says the seizure was made Jan. 17 when 100 brick-shaped bundles of suspected cocaine were found during a routine cargo inspection of a plane arriving from Mexico.

The CBSA has turned the cocaine over to the RCMP.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DENTAL IMPLANT PATIENTS SOUGHT

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Trump rides populist wave of 'blame others' in tough times

U.S. POLITICS

Toronto and B.C. experts weigh in on candidate

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Worrying about this man gives Toronto political scientist (and American) Stephen Newman some "serious heartburn" and makes him gravely concerned about the face America is presenting to the world. GETTY IMAGES

It's a tale of two Americans in Canada. One thinks Donald Trump as president would be a disaster and the other might help vote him in.

But they agree on this: Trump's surging popularity is America's version of a "populist revolt."

"A lot of the people that Trump appeals to have been really feeling hard hit, they've been hard pressed, they haven't been getting any relief," said Stephen Newman, an American who teaches political science at York University.

Many Americans have legitimate economic grievances and know establishment politicians aren't offering real solutions, Newman said. So, Republicans are looking to Trump, an outsider who repudiates and infuriates the GOP establishment.

That's the basis of a kind of populist revolt that's brought outsider, and sometimes extremist, politicians to power all over the world.

Craig Wolverton, a dual citizen who was born in Florida but now lives in Qualicum Beach, B.C., agrees with the "populist revolt" theory. But, unlike Newman, he's considering throwing support Trump's way. "He's a proven businessman, he has a ton of success and I think Americans are wanting a change from the traditional political establishment and breath of fresh air," Wolverton said.

Wolverton and Newman also share a criticism of Trump: They have no idea what he'd actually do if elected, and they haven't seen a real platform yet.

If Trump's going to be elected, he's going to have to change his tone and demeanour and, overall, "act more presidential," Newman said.

Wolverton isn't sure if Trump's controversial comments about race were made because he doesn't think before opening his mouth or because he knows inflammatory statements grab headlines.

Newman, on the other hand, sees Trump's comments about Muslims and Mexicans as disturbingly xenophobic and tailored to appeal to the mostly white voters who look for an "other" to blame in hard times.

Those feelings aren't uniquely American, he said, and boosted the popularity of politicians like Italy's Silvio Berlusconi and France's Marie Le Pen. But, they tend to play out with a different "local flavour." In America, that flavour is Trump.

TRENDING

Colin McNeil
Metro | Canada

Searches for "how to move to Canada" and "how can I move to Canada?" hit all-time highs after the likely Republican nominee came away with wins in seven states.

Google data editor Simon Rogers tweeted that interest in the search term spiked 350 per cent late Tuesday night.

The Google Trends account also tweeted that "Searches for 'Move to Canada' are higher than at any time in Google history".

This comes after a cheeky website in Cape Breton urged Americans to move there if Donald Trump becomes president.

Coincidentally, the immigration section of Government of Canada website was experiencing delays Wednesday.

The immigration office denied claims it was due to the Trump trend.

Norm Kelly, Toronto city councillor and infamous 'Internet Dad', tweeted a link to the website, which had more than 40,000 retweets.

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*Canadian residents who have reached the age of majority in their province or territory can enter the contest at **www.hyundaisupersearch.com** between February 13, 2016 at 12:01am (ET) and April 4, 2016 at 11:59pm (PT). One entry per each Weekly Prize. One entry per Grand Prize. Four (4) Weekly Prizes of CDN$2,500.00 each, and one (1) Grand Prize of CDN$20,000.00. To be eligible for Grand Prize, contest participant must perform test drive of a new Hyundai vehicle at a Canadian Hyundai dealership and submit the correct answer to the final SuperSearch Clue. To be eligible for secondary Weekly Prizes, contest participant must submit the correct answer for each respective Weekly SuperSearch Clue. Each Weekly Prize is exclusive of each other; answer submission for all Weekly Prizes is not required to be eligible to win any one (1) Weekly Prize. Chances of winning depend on the total number of eligible entries received. Eligible winners must correctly answer skill-testing question. Prize draws will be held at 16 Mary Street, Unit 4, Aurora, Ontario at approximately 2:00 PM (ET) on April 7, 2016. No purchase required. Complete rules available at www.hyundaisupersearch.com. ™/®The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp.

IN BRIEF

Travellers advised to delay pregnancy two months
The Public Health Agency of Canada is advising women who want to get pregnant to wait at least two months after visiting countries where the Zika virus is circulating or could circulate, before trying. The mosquito-borne virus has been linked to thousands of cases of newborns with small heads.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man seeks junk owner
Kit Pullen woke up Wednesday to piles of furniture outside his garage. The Ottawa man says he doesn't know how it got there or what to do with it. A neighbour told Pullen he'd seen a U-Haul in his driveway at 3 a.m. The pile contained an apartment's worth of stuff, he said. Eventually, Pullen says provincial police told him they'd pulled over a van near Kingston and the driver told them he was on the way back to correct the mistake. THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Eager to take our place'

CLIMATE CHANGE

Trudeau says Canada will be a leader in new green economy

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said the world economy is quickly moving toward recognizing the importance of protecting the environment, and he wants Canada to be part of it.

"The future is coming at us fast, and I know Canadians are ready for it. We're eager to take our place among the leaders in this new economy. Canadians don't fear the future. We want to play a leading role in shaping it," Trudeau said Wednesday in an address to the opening plenary session of the Globe Series clean technology conference in Vancouver.

Trudeau said the Liberal government would double its investment in clean energy over the next five years, give $75 million to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to support cities and towns responding to the challenges of climate change, as well as $50 million to improve "climate resilience" in design guides and Canadian building and infrastructure codes.

The prime minister is in Vancouver to meet with indigenous leaders and the provincial and territorial premiers to discuss how they can follow up on their commitment at the COP21 United Nations climate conference in Paris in December to fight global warming and transition to a low-carbon economy.

Those discussions are expected to be tough, as not everyone is on board with the Liberal vision of pricing carbon nationwide, and Quebec decided this week was the time to seek an injunction to force the proposed Energy East pipeline project to submit to a provincial environmental impact assessment.

The PM addresses the Globe 2016 conference in Vancouver. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

One of the messages Trudeau will bring to the premiers was also a natural fit for the Globe conference, where the focus was on environmental innovation as a way to create jobs and economic growth.

"We know we begin from the common goal we all share — we want a low-carbon economy that continues to provide good jobs and great opportunities for all Canadians.

To get there, we need to make smart, strategic investments in clean growth and new infrastructure," Trudeau said.

But investing in new technology does not mean abandoning what is still a major part of the economy, said Trudeau, stressing the importance of the existing natural resource sector. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MMIW

Support for indigenous women's inquiry low in Prairies

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan have the greatest concentration of indigenous people in the country, but Prairie residents' support for the ongoing inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women (MMIW) is lower than anywhere else.

Results of an Angus Reid Institute survey released Wednesday shows Prairie residents are less confident than other Canadians that the inquiry will yield a better situation for indigenous women.

In Manitoba, which Indigenous Affairs Minister Carolyn Bennett calls "ground zero" for the issue, only 33 per cent of respondents are optimistic things will improve post-inquiry.

A further 33 per cent are "very pessimistic," and 24 per cent are "moderately pessimistic," while the remainder aren't sure.

Albertans' outlook is similarly bleak, with 31 per cent optimistic, and Saskatchewanians registered the lowest vote of confidence of all with just 28 per cent expecting a positive outcome.

Compared to 46 per cent of respondents being optimistic in Ontario, and 46 per cent in Quebec, or the 44 per cent national average, the Prairies don't hold much hope for the inquiry doing good for the country.

Angus Reid executive director Shachi Kurl said there are a number of reasons for the cynicism.

"Some of it is simply (doubting) the recommendations will be followed," she said. The survey found 35 per cent of respondents had that opinion.

Another 24 per cent said "this would be better left to police and the courts," 21 per cent said the issue is too big and "basically unresolvable," and 7 per cent said it's "over-exaggerated in the first place."

"And there is a sense as well that, we know as a country what the issues are, do we really need an inquiry to look at these issues?" Kurl said.

Beyond hoping for a positive outcome, the Prairies also hold the lowest support in general for the inquiry; although the national average for support is 79 per cent, Manitobans and Albertans are both only 60 per cent in favour.

Minister Carolyn Bennett
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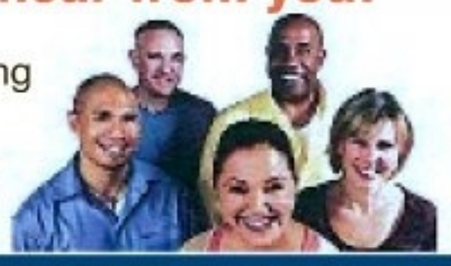

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Coming back to Earth

NASA

Yearlong mission used to simulate trip to Mars

International Space Station (ISS) crew member **Scott Kelly** of the U.S. gestures after landing near the town of Dzhezkazgan, Kazakhstan, on Wednesday. PHOTO CREDIT IN SMALL CAPS

Ah, there's nothing like a blast of fresh, frigid air to welcome you back to the planet after nearly a year cooped up in space.

That's the word from astronaut Scott Kelly, NASA's space-endurance champ who returned to bitterly cold Kazakhstan on Wednesday, along with his roommate for the past year, Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Kornienko.

In a NASA interview before heading home to Houston, Kelly said it was "amazing" to feel the cold air when the hatch of his Soyuz capsule popped open after touchdown.

"I don't mean to say it's not fresh on the space station," he said, "but there's nothing like new cold air coming into the capsule."

Both Kelly, 52, and Kornienko, 55, yearned for nature throughout their 340-day mission at the International Space Station, a dry run by NASA for eventual trips to Mars.

"Just like Scott, I wanted to see Earth and I wanted to smell that fresh air. This is an unforgettable feeling," Kornienko said.

It was the longest an American ever lived in space, although nothing new for the Russians. The world record is 438 days, set back in the mid-1990s at the former Mir space station. Even before that, a pair of Soviet cosmonauts had racked up a full one-year spaceflight.

President Barack Obama praised the returning American astronaut.

"Welcome back to Earth, StationCDRKelly! Your year in space is vital to the future of American space travel. Hope gravity isn't a drag!" Obama said via Twitter.

The White House said Obama spoke with Kelly on Wednesday, thanking him for his service and for sharing his journey through social media. Kelly posted hundreds of photos of Earth. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARS-BOUND

Minutes after emerging from their capsule, they were whisked in chairs to a medical tent where they did their best to stand, walk, jump, navigate obstacles — everything an astronaut might need to do immediately upon arriving on Mars.

NASA aims to put astronauts on the red planet in the 2030s, but first wants to know how the body — and mind - will fare during the 2-1/2-year expedition.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RESEARCH

U.K. team finds grey hair gene

If you've experienced the distress of looking in the mirror and unearthing an uninvited grey hair staring back at you, apparently your ancestors are to blame.

A study led by England's University College London (UCL) claims to have discovered the first grey hair gene, confirming that environmental factors are not the only reasons your hair will change colour.

The study for Nature Communications journal analyzed 6,000 people across Latin America to identify the IRF4 gene, which helps determine hair, skin and eye colour.

"We already know several genes involved in balding and hair colour but this is the first time a gene for greying has been identified in humans, as well as other genes influencing hair shape and density," said the lead author from UCL, Dr. Kaustubh Adhikari.

The study also found genes associated with beard thickness and monobrow prevalence.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Rexall Health sold for $3B

DRUG STORES

Chain has been undergoing big changes in recent years

Canada's Rexall Health drugstore chain has been sold to U.S. health-care company McKesson Corporation for $3 billion.

The deal was announced Wednesday morning, and is expected to close later this year.

Rexall has 470 retail pharmacies in Canada and is privately owned by the Calgary-based Katz Group, which describes itself as one of Canada's largest privately owned enterprises.

Daryl Katz, Katz Group founder and chairman, is also owner and governor of the Edmonton Oilers.

"I have the utmost confidence that Rexall Health will continue to flourish under McKesson's ownership," Katz said in a notice to investors posted to McKesson's website.

The companies say Rexall Health will continue to be led by its current management, headed by CEO Jurgen Schreiber.

Rexall branded products are shown in a store in Ottawa. The national pharmacy chain describes itself as one of Canada's largest privately owned enterprises. JUSTIN TANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **Rexall Health will continue to flourish under McKesson's ownership.** Daryl Katz, Katz Group founder

The Rexall chain has been undergoing big changes over the past four years, selling franchised stores and renovating and improving stores and adding services.

Rexall was at the forefront of moving flu shots into pharmacies in order to drive revenues at a time when provinces were introducing generic drug bills to make it cheaper to buy drugs — and less lucrative for pharmacies.

"Canada's health-care environment is rapidly evolving; it is marked by a move of primary care into pharmacy and increasingly complex patient demand. With today's announcement, McKesson will bring together the strengths and expertise of our diverse portfolio to address challenges and opportunities in delivering the very best patient care," said John H. Hammergren, chairman and chief executive officer, McKesson Corporation, in a news release to investors.

McKesson is already operating in Canada in the pharmaceutical supply chain sector. Together the Rexall chain and McKesson's existing operations in Canada will employ 13,000 people.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

13,000

The number of people that will be employed by the Rexall chain and McKesson's existing operations in Canada.

LONG HISTORY

3 things about the chain

1. Rexall has been around since 1904.
2. Rexall boss Daryl Katz learned about the pharmacy business from his father Barry, who opened a small drug store in 1955 in Edmonton.
3. In February 2008, Katz paid $200 million to buy the Edmonton Oilers. He was 46 at the time.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

market minute

DOLLAR	74.48¢ (–0.07¢)
TSX	13,017.93 (+35.83)
OIL	$34.66 US (+26¢)
GOLD	$1,241.80 US (+$11.00)

NATURAL GAS: $1.678 US (–6.4¢)
DOW JONES: 16,899.32 (+34.24)

FOOD

Loblaw bets on ugly veggies

Ugly food can mean a pretty profit. At least, that's the bet Loblaw is making with its ugly duckling line of produce aimed at shoppers looking to save money on the skyrocketing cost of fresh food.

The company launched its Naturally Imperfect line last March, offering ugly apples and potatoes to Ontario and Quebec shoppers as part of a trial run that later expanded to select stores in other provinces.

More types of cheaper, bruised and misshapen produce will soon be available across the country, the company announced Wednesday.

"It really went well above and beyond what our expectation was," said Dan Branson, the company's senior director of produce.

Based on the program's success, Naturally Imperfect will now include unsightly peppers, onions and mushrooms for consumers in Quebec and Ontario.

30%

How much less the uglier version of a fruit or vegetable costs than its good-looking counterpart.

Between January 2015 and 2016, Canadian food prices rose four per cent, according to Statistics Canada's consumer price index. But fresh fruit and vegetables showed some of the biggest increases, shooting up 12.9 and 18.2 per cent respectively.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Thursday, March 3, 2016

CHANTAL HÉBERT ON MAKING PEACE AMONG PREMIERS

To varying degrees, Canada's first ministers all subscribe to the notion that getting more Western Canada oil to tidewater is in the economic interest of the country.

When all is said and done, there is no rational reason for this week's climate-change gathering of first ministers in Vancouver to feature an East-West brawl over pipelines.

Unless the premiers of the energy-producing provinces are irresistibly inclined to lead a charge on windmills, they have no reason to get on their high horses in order to cast themselves as champions of their resources industry.

When it comes to the pipeline agenda, there are no irreconcilable differences between Canada's first ministers. Remarkably, to a man and a woman, the premiers and the prime minister are all sold on it.

To varying degrees they all subscribe to the notion that getting more Western Canada oil to tidewater is in the economic interest of the country. Challengers of that perspective are few and far between in the Canadian political mainstream and none currently sits at the federal-provincial table.

The wide pro-pipeline consensus includes Quebec's Philippe Couillard. This week, he has been painted in some media and political quarters — including in the corridors of the Saskatchewan government in Regina — as a black sheep for insisting the Energy East project live up to Quebec's environmental standards.

And yet that is not even a position Couillard arrived at readily. The province's hand was at least partly forced by events. Sadly, for those who would not let a few facts get in the way of a good West-versus-East plot line, those events mostly took place in British Columbia.

A few years ago, the B.C. government left the responsibility to assess the environmental impact of the Northern Gateway pipeline to the National Energy Board. It based that decision on the argument that interprovincial projects such as pipelines fall squarely under the constitutional authority of the federal government.

B.C. did submit some conditions for supporting Northern Gateway to the federal panel. Most of them were eventually tossed aside by Stephen Harper's cabinet when it gave the pipeline the final go-ahead — almost.

In between the two decisions, some First Nations groups took the province to court. In mid-January the B.C. Supreme Court found the province had abdicated its responsibilities when it declined to conduct its own assessment of the pipeline. It said Christy Clark's government did have the legal duty to insure its environmental standards were respected.

"British Columbia, within its own jurisdiction, has unique objectives, political and social goals, and legal obligations, the court concluded . . . it cannot be the intention of the legislators to allow the voice of British Columbia to be removed in this process for an unknown number of projects, when the purpose behind the EAA (Environmental Assessment Act) is to promote economic interest in this province, and to protect its land and environment."

A similar train has been barrelling down the legal track in Quebec.

The provincial decision to seek an injunction to require TransCanada to submit to the Quebec environmental regulatory process comes as a coalition of environmental groups is asking a court to force Couillard's government to do a full-fledged assessment of the Energy East pipeline.

Like his B.C. counterpart, Couillard has to manage public opinion and the pipeline-adverse official opposition.

If it is to make headway on the project with Quebecers, the last thing the Liberal government needs is to be seen to be dragged by the courts to the task of exerting due diligence on its environmental impact.

Notwithstanding the spin from Conservative quarters in Saskatchewan, Alberta and at the federal level, there are no magic shortcuts to getting shovels in the pipeline ground.

For a decade, Harper's government claimed it had found some. But those shortcuts have all led to quagmires. Pretending a mess that could pave the way to decades of litigation does not exist will not make it go away.

A final word: It may be time for pipeline proponents to drop the tired comparison between projects such as Energy East and the 19th century building of Canada's national railway.

Does anyone seriously believe it helps the pipeline cause to hark back to a time when governments and corporations felt invested with a quasi-divine right to displace aboriginal communities as they saw fit and when the words "sustainable" and "development" were a century away from being routinely paired?

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

THE MICROTREND: #TrumpYourCat

It's a trend for our times. The people of the Internet love cats. They're fascinated by U.S. Republican front-runner Donald Trump to a comparable degree. Naturally, it follows that #TrumpYourCat has taken off on social media, encouraging amateur hairstylists everywhere to attempt to coif their fur-babies into a 'do resembling the brash billionaire's elaborate and (he says) authentic comb over. This feline phenomenon apparently began with someone going by the name Donald Purrump, who is promoting the slogan "Trump your cat, just don't Trump America."

SOURCE: THE TELEGRAPH, IMAGE: PAMELA PLOWDEN/INSTAGRAM

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

People who use coffee-pod machines belong in the 1950s

In 1955, Life magazine jubilantly declared the age of "Throwaway Living: Disposable items cut down household chores."

Housewives needn't clean up the frying pan or the dog bowl, the article gushed. Why bother when you can toss it, along with the draperies? It recommended the toss-away barbeque — built with an "asbestos shell."

Ah, the quaint ignorance of the '50s. Today, we know environmentally damaging waste ends up swirling around in state-sized piles in the ocean, and asbestos kills you.

And yet, there currently exists a product so wasteful, so unnecessary, based solely on convenience and with zero other redeeming qualities, and it's selling like hotcakes.

I'm talking about coffee pods. Coffee pods are an abomination, a product for the wilfully wasteful, the arrogantly lazy, and the ad-ready George Clooney.

People who drink from these machines — most famously Keurig — belong in the 1950s, where their eco guiltlessness is quite in keeping with the times.

But this is 2016. Three years ago, the World Bank was already predicting that global waste would triple — triple! — by 2100, before it begins to "decline in different regions at different times, depending in part on population growth, waste reduction efforts, and changes in consumption."

Changes, what changes? In Canada, coffee pod machines are on "four out of every 10 Canadian counters," according to the National Post. And Keurig's effort to make the cups recyclable by 2020 won't stop the drain on resources to produce the cups. Even the creator of Keurig's K-Cup machines has remorse: "I feel bad sometimes that I ever did it," he told The Atlantic.

Last month, Hamburg, Germany became the first city to ban coffee pod machines in municipal buildings, citing the waste they create. It will probably also end up cutting the coffee budget, since even the K-Cup's creator admits the machines are expensive to use. That's because each company's machines employ an Apple-esque proprietary model that forces you to use the same company's pods.

As if all this weren't enough, coffee pod machines are a threat to relationships everywhere: Only able to brew one cup at a time, couples must choose every morning who to serve first — themselves or their partner?

But the nail in the coffin, the death of whatever thin sympathy might remain, is this: The coffee itself is entirely ordinary.

Even Nespresso-selling Clooney shouldn't convince you otherwise.

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Your essential daily news

Zoe Saldana stars in Nina Simone biopic, in theatres and on VOD April 22

This looks like a job for Lois Lane

In his comprehensive and often lively study of Superman's love-interest, Lois Lane, Halifax-based comic historian Tim Hanley describes his subject as "Superman without the superpowers ... [Lois] is just as committed to truth and justice through her tireless reporting, and just as willing to put herself in harm's way to help someone." Here is a look at Lane's portrayal over the years TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ACTING THE PART

Incarnations of Lois Lane
Lois Lane, created by writer Jerry Siegel and artist Joe Shuster, first appeared in Action Comics #1 (June 1938). Over the years, she has appeared in many other incarnations. Here are some of our favourites.

Phyllis Coates played Lois Lane in the first 26 episodes of the '50s television series Adventures of Superman, in which she was given equal billing with George Reeves (insisted upon by Reeves).

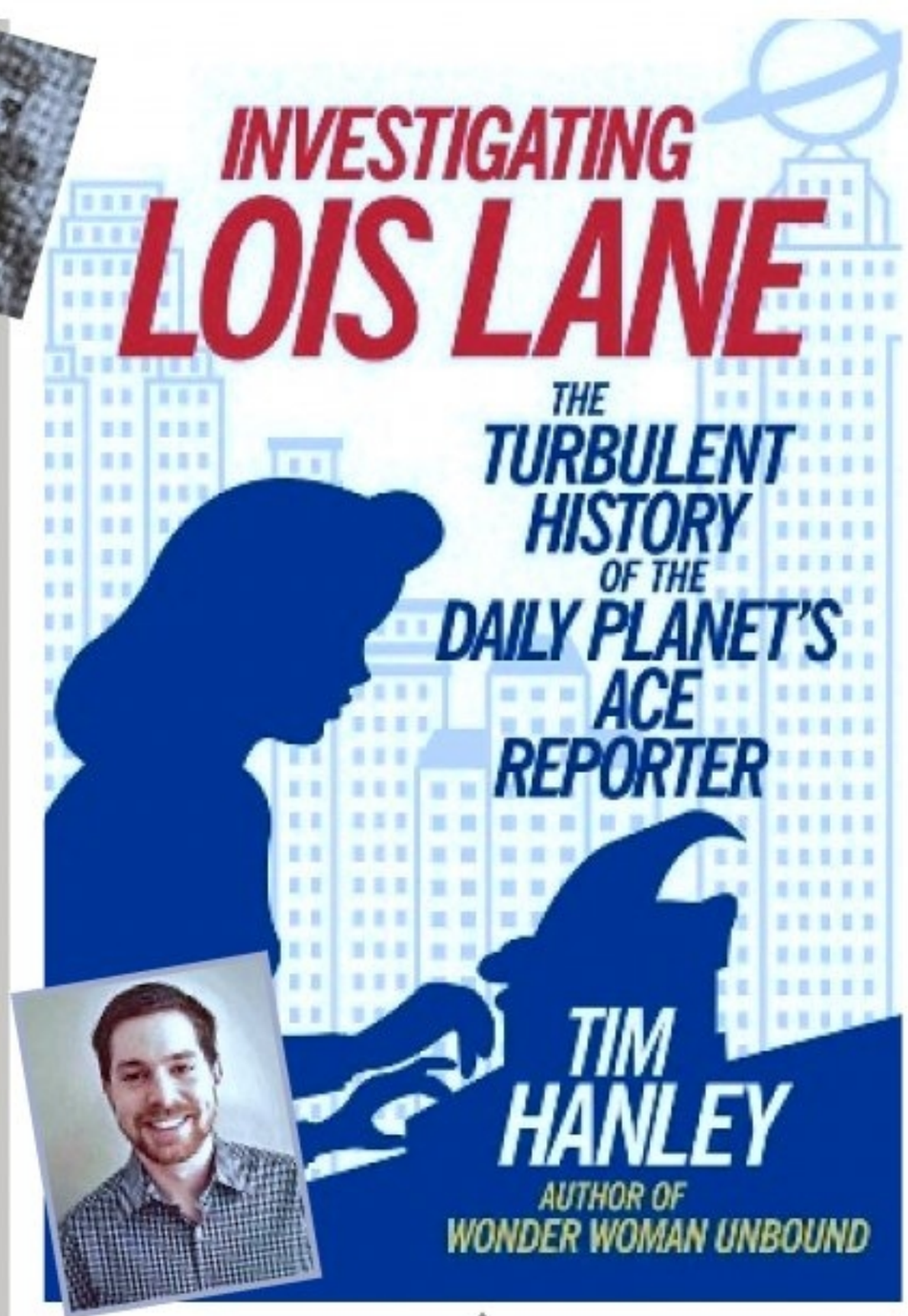
Noel Neill portrayed Lois Lane in the first live-action appearance of Superman on film, in the 1948 serial Superman, which starred Kirk Alyn as the title character. She reprised the role in another film serial in 1950 — Atom Man vs. Superman.

Patricia Marand was nominated for a Tony award for her performance as Lois Lane in the Broadway musical It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's a Superman in 1966.

Canadian-born **Margot Kidder** played Lois Lane in the 1978 movie Superman and the three sequels starring Christopher Reeve. One of the movies was partially shot in the Toronto Star newsroom at 1 Yonge St.

Teri Hatcher played Lois Lane to Dean Cain's Clark Kent in the television series Lois and Clark: The New Adventures of Superman (1993-1997).

Amy Adams portrayed Lois Lane in 2013's Man of Steel (starring Henry Cavill). She will reprise the role in the movie Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice which opens later this year.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



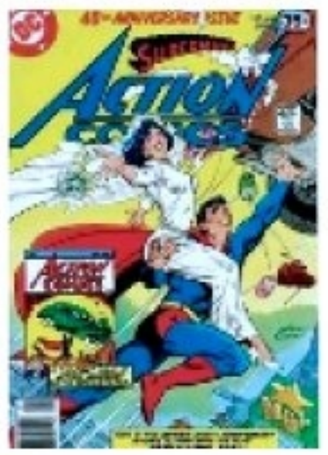
EMPOWERED AND OBJECTIFIED

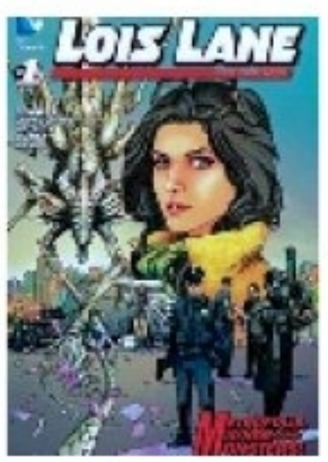
From ace reporter to damsel in distress

At the time of her debut, in the first Superman comic, in 1938, Lois was an independent professional when few women were, having worked her way up from the lovelorn column to the front pages of the Daily Star. Even more unusual, she was happily single.

As time went on, however, Lois was increasingly cast in the role of damsel in distress: her reporting job put her in dangerous situations so Superman could rescue her. Superman was the object of her affections but also, paradoxically, her rival. He used his superpowers to get to stories before she did, then scooped her in his guise as Clark Kent.

Portrayals of Lois have, in the 75 years since, constantly toggled between empowerment and objectification. Sometimes this was a reflection of broader social trends.





A SHORT-LIVED AWAKENING

Total Kryptonite

In the '60s, in the spinoff comic Superman's Girl Friend Lois Lane, Lois had a short-lived feminist awakening: she mastered a Kryptonian form of self-defence, went undercover with a motorcycle gang, and asked to be called "Ms." But on a micro level Lois' fate was also determined by the sexist whims and opinions of the overwhelmingly male roster of artists and writers who worked on her.

EVERY LOIS LANE ITERATION EVER

Comic effect

Investigating Lois Lane cites and assesses what feels like every Lois iteration, whether in print, TV, movies, or on stage. Depending on your relationship to comics, this will be either a plus or a minus. Aficionados will appreciate it, while those with a more peripheral interest in the form may find the book's exhaustiveness — especially in the later chapters — exhausting at times.

CREATIVE BUST-UP

A model wife

Some of the most intriguing aspects of Lois' story occur outside comic panels. The model who posed for Canadian illustrator Joe Shuster's initial sketches of Lois eventually married his creative partner (and writer of the comic) Jerry Siegel — a factor in the men's 25-year estrangement. Both actresses who played Lois in the 1950s TV version of Superman had double L's in their names. And the show's star, George Reeves, was engaged to a dubious socialite with the improbable name Leonore Lemmon at the time of his sudden, mysterious death in 1959.

SHRINKING MEDIA LANDSCAPE

Future under threat

Hanley writes from an unapologetically feminist slant (his previous book was about Wonder Woman) and has an obvious, appealing affection for his heroine. There may be more to say about Lois soon: given that the status of journalists is arguably under greater threat, in today's shrinking media landscape, than the status of women, her future could prove even more interesting than her past.

Tackling the residential school legacy

NEW NOVEL

Joan Crate delved deep into research for Black Apple

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

Joan Crate's character, a feisty young Blackfoot girl named Sinopaki, was born more than a decade before the Calgary author even knew she was writing her new novel, Black Apple.

Like so many writers juggling multiple roles, Crate only had time to jot down notes in between her busy schedule as a teacher and a mom. But there was something about Sinopaki that stuck with Crate among all the discarded characters and stories.

Published by Simon & Schuster Canada, Black Apple follows Sinopaki — renamed Rose Mary by nuns — as she is taken from her parents to board at St. Mark's Residential School, where she is singled out and punished for her indefatigable spirit and imagination.

"She's modelled after my grandmother's personality," says Crate.

"She was little and tough and full of energy and did things without thinking sometimes."

Crate hadn't intended on writing a novel set in a residential school but given the timeframe of Sinopaki's story, she felt she had no choice, narrative wise.

"I knew that was fraught with all sorts of complications," says Crate.

"It really was a moral decision; I decided I didn't want to be part of the silence around residential schools."

She also knew that if she were to tackle the sensitive subject, she would have to do so by being authentic and respectful.

Crate had already undertaken some research while teaching a native literature class in the 1990s, upon discovering that many of her students didn't know much about aboriginal history, let alone the horrific legacy of Canada's residential-school system. She read many books and personal accounts, and spoke to survivors. Crate, whose father is half Cree, grew up with stories but says, "they were really small and capsulated, like 'if we were bad the nuns made us clean the bathroom with a toothbrush.' You'd just get little bits that people were comfortable divulging."

> **People who set out to do good ended up bitter and mean and attempting to take revenge on children ...**
> Joan Crate on the residential school system

Sinopaki's story, which continues after she leaves the school for work, is paralleled with that of Mother Grace, a pious but intellectually minded nun at St. Mark's who has a few personal secrets of her own.

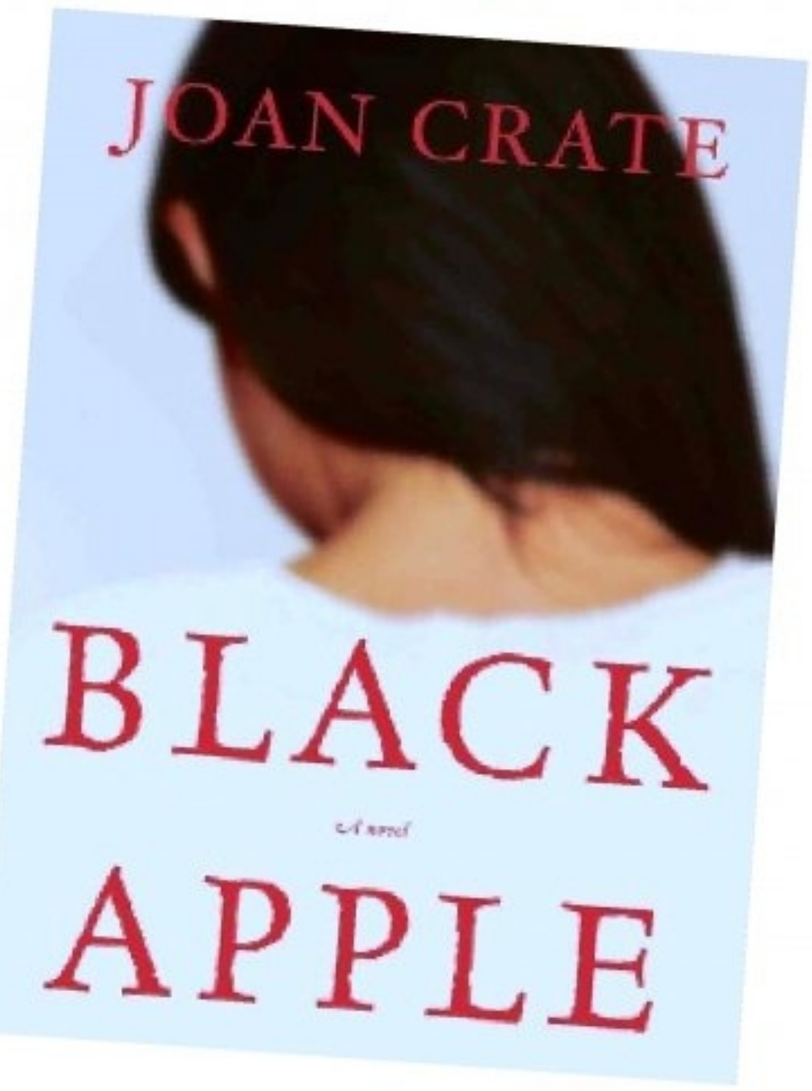
Through writing from the nun's perspective, Crate wanted to explore how people with good intentions became so monstrous.

"People who set out to do good ended up bitter and mean and attempting to take revenge on children who they may have felt were stealing their lives," she says.

"I think it happened in part through a sense of superiority and a lack of respect for other cultures."

Although Black Apple also weaves in an unlikely love story, a murder and ghost sightings, the legacy of the residential school and how it separated child from parent is inescapable. As Crate says, it "felt like a domineering character."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.



LGBTQ

A queer chick offers some good advice

From coming out to dating to dealing with discrimination, Lindsay King-Miller has put together a guide, Ask a Queer Chick, that is tailor made for — as she describes — "girls who dig girls."

The title of the new book, out in February from the Penguin imprint Plume, is also the name of the advice column King-Miller has written online since 2011.

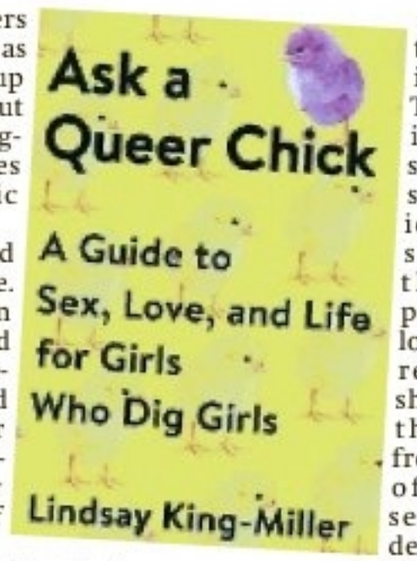
"I wanted to expand on some of the questions I get asked most frequently," she said in a recent interview from Denver, where she is a guest artist in creative writing at the Denver School of the Arts.

"The primary audience for the book is intended to be young LGBTQ people, but I do include a chapter that's directed at straight and cisgender people who have questions about how to interact and support the queer people in their lives," she said.

King-Miller, 28, said young people in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer or questioning community often don't have a personal go-to source in their lives for "compassionate guidance" or the kind of advice usually dispensed by a mother, older sister or other close friend or family member.

> **I wanted to expand on some of the questions I get asked most frequently**
> Lindsay King-Miller on why she wrote a book

While she covers broad topics such as dating, breaking up and how to seek out community, King-Miller also focuses on more specific issues.



Take "lesbian bed death," for instance. She calls that an "awful term" coined in the 1980s to describe the "supposed tendency of queer women to stop having sex altogether after a few years of dating."

The term, she laughed, sounds more like a lethal disease. King-Miller notes the phenom has been "somewhat discredited" in recent years but the phrase hangs on.

"The idea of LBD makes people nervous, if you go a few days or a few weeks without having sex. You go, 'Oh no, is this lesbian bed death,'" she said. "Is this how it starts? The reality is subsequent studies have shown that all people in long-term relationships find that the frequency of their sex lives decreases, then tends to plateau and stay below what it was in the first year."

However, she said, "lesbian couples report longer sexual encounters. So while they're having sex less frequently, they're having sex for longer, and they report similar satisfaction with their sex lives as their heterosexual counterparts."

How to get a relationship off the ground is a big topic for King-Miller's column readers, since many are newly out or in the process of coming out. But dumping a partner is another matter she takes on in her book.

"Queer social circles are just smaller," King-Miller said. "If you wanted to avoid your ex altogether you might end up feeling like you've been excommunicated from your gay social scene.

"Learning to co-exist with exes in a peaceful and non-adversarial way is probably a good life skill to have across the board. It's maybe even more important for queer women because it's really hard to go through a lesbian breakup. If there's one gay bar in town you're going to see your ex there."

Coming out is one thing, King-Miller said, but being rejected by loved ones in the process is quite another. It's an area she is asked about quite a lot by her column readers. If familial rejection is likely, she counsels, "there's no shame in waiting to come out to them until you've saved up some money and are prepared to move out and support yourself."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BLACK CANARY

From crime-fighting florist to rock star

Mike Donachie
Metro | Canada

BLACK CANARY VOLUME 1: KICKING AND SCREAMING
BY: Brenden Fletcher, Annie Wu, Pia Guerra, Lee Loughridge
PUBLISHER: DC Comics

There was a time when Black Canary was a florist. Now, she's an ultra-violent rock star with a secret past. If anything sums up the way comic books are changing, it's this.

This cool, fast-paced revamp of the Golden Age character updates her in a way that even justifies her fishnets-and-leather costume, while sidestepping 70 years of tangled continuity.

Black Canary is the name of the band now, and lead singer Dinah Lance, calling herself D.D., is using her superpowered voice to blow everyone away in the music biz, and getting in a lot of fights.

Of course, this is a comic, so there is constant peril from aliens, government agents and ninjas, plus onstage rivalries that make Jem and the Holograms seem sensible.

This book will get dated fast (check back-issue bins for old Dazzler comics if you want proof), but it doesn't matter because it's so much fun right here right now.

metro HOME

Your essential daily news

Social housing architect Alejandro Aravena receives 2016 Pritzker Prize

House prices are raising the roof

REAL ESTATE

Torontonians turn to condo market as costs stay high

Duncan McAllister
For Metro Canada

While perusing MLS listings of Toronto single-family houses, one would get the impression that one- and two-million-dollar homes are not out of the ordinary these days. Once again, the condominium seems to be the more affordable option for first-time buyers who want to continue to live in the city.

"When you look at the average detached home at over one million dollars, and the prices that even semis are going for, it's really unreachable for most people," says Ralph Fox, a broker with Sage Real Estate, who maintains that this level of pricing is to be expected in any major global city.

"Purchasing a condo apartment is the only realistic option for most first-time buyers." That's the verdict from RBC's latest quarterly Housing Trends and Affordability report, whose authors warn that "single-detached home affordability in Toronto continues to slip deeper into stressful territory for homebuyers."

The Toronto market is experiencing a growing disconnect between the price of a single-family home and a condominium. Even then, the RBC report finds that condos have become slightly less affordable in the last two quarters, leading to a new trend in rental demand.

Despite the latest dire warnings about affordability and bubble-trouble, Fox is still optimistic about real estate investment in general. He says that the doom and gloom has always been there and it isn't anything new.

"I think people have been so desensitized by the continual negativity in the press over the course of a decade, but yet the actual market is behaving in a completely different manner."

"When anyone delves deeper into the market and understand the fundamentals they become very confident in the future of investing and living in downtown Toronto," says Fox.

This gorgeous detached character home in the heart of Parkdale was built in 1890 by local merchant James Hunter. It is currently listed for $2,800,000.

TRACEY LOGAN/HIGH PARK REAL ESTATE GROUP.

One little known fact is that despite the seemingly red hot Toronto market with stories of multiple offers and bidding wars, over 17,000 Toronto homes did not sell on the first try last year.

Independent research by TheRedPin.com online brokerage confirms that despite the never-ending rise in demand, some properties need at least two tries to sell.

On average, properties relist for a shocking $24,000 less than the original asking price. TheRedPin.com co-founder Rokham Fard says that while it may seem tempting to pull a listing off the market and relist on hopes of better offers, the smart money is with selling on the first listing. "Sellers and agents should leave it all on the field to sell properties the first time around," Fard advises.

> **When you look at the average detached home at over one million dollars, and the prices that even semis are going for, it's really unreachable for most people.**
>
> Ralph Fox, Sage Real Estate

INTERIORS

Missoni Home presents floral fabrics at Paris Déco Off

High-end Italian fashion house Missoni presented its new collection of fabrics last month at Paris Déco Off, a design showcase that takes visitors around brand showrooms in the French capital.

With Rosita Missoni at the helm of Missoni Home, it's no surprise to see her love of colour channeled in these vibrant new fabrics.

Oriental Garden

One of six fabric collections presented, Oriental Garden is based on a pattern from a silk cape, known as Saturno, designed by Missoni in 1971.

Missoni Home reclaimed the pattern for its 2016 textile collection, with bold flowering branches blooming in different designs, including a macro print on cotton with a checkerboard of matte and shiny finishes, and micro embroidery on satin fabric. Two sets are available, with turquoise, amethyst, slate and onyx on a sandy coloured background, or coral, rosewood and shades of amethyst and sage on a turquoise background.

Missoni Home's Floral Galaxy pattern, right, was inspired by a flower-filled English garden.

Anemone

Anemone is a flagship line this season for Missoni.

Inspired by the flower of the same name, it juxtaposes large and small flowers in shades of blue and green against black and white blooms.

Black and white appear again in the Anemones Dream fabric, alongside touches of pink, yellow and purple.

Fireworks

Fireworks uses a rainbow design, which along with chevrons is a hallmark of the Missoni brand. The bright colours are set against a black and white background.

Tropical Fish

The Tropical Fish line of outdoor fabrics puts colourful fish in a lively print. (Prices on request.) AFP

BACKGROUND

Rosita Missoni founded Missoni 60 years ago with her husband, Ottavio.

She left the fashion side of things to her children in 1997 and turned her attention to Missoni Home.

Anemones Dream is one of six new fabric collections from Missoni Home. ALL PHOTOS: MISSONI HOME/HANDOUT

4 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE NEW MORTGAGE RULES

Homebuyers in Canada now face larger down payment requirements for properties over $500,000. The changes that were implimented last month are intended to temper some of Canada's heated real estate markets. Here are four things to know about the new rules.

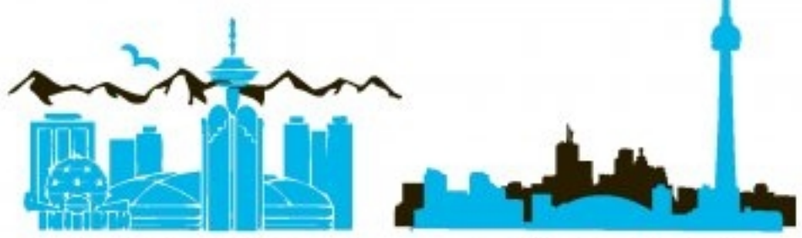
THE CANADIAN PRESS GRAPHICS ANDRES PLANA/FOR METRO

1 Cough up the cash

Homebuyers now have to put a down payment of at least 10 per cent on the portion of the price of a home over $500,000. For anyone buying a home for $700,000 — a common list price in Vancouver and Toronto — that means the minimum down payment will rise to $45,000 from $35,000. Any home under $500,000 still requires only a down payment of five per cent.

2 Who's affected

Primarily those shopping for a home in Toronto and Vancouver. First-time buyers in those cities will feel the pinch since they'll be required to put down bigger down payments to get into the market. Those selling their homes in order to size up, especially in cities with hot housing markets, likely won't feel the pain since they've built up equity in those properties.



3 Impact

The influence the new rules will have over house prices is expected to be small, experts say, given their narrow reach. When he announced the changes in December, Finance Minister Bill Morneau said they are expected to affect one per cent or less of the real estate market.

4 Past measures

Four rounds of changes were made to tighten eligibility rules for new insurable loans between 2008 and 2012. Among them: the minimum down payment was increased to five per cent, the maximum amortization period was reduced to 25 years from 30 years and the maximum insurable house price was limited to below $1 million.

Down payment
5% MIN

Amortization
25yr MAX

Insurable house price
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The sweet sound of Parfait at Atria

Project overview

The fourth phase of the new master-planned Atria condominium community, Parfait offers plenty of amenities with bright, open-concept suites showcasing a host of premium features and finishes that require less overall energy.

Building amenities

Plenty to do here with a fireplace lounge, a party room with outdoor terrace, theatre room, billiards lounge and private dining room. There's also a fitness centre with a yoga studio and exercise pool.

Location and transit

Parfait enjoys a convenient location close to the Don Mills subway station. Drivers will enjoy close proximity to highways 404, 401 and the Don Valley Parkway. Commuters can be downtown within 40 minutes.

In the neighbourhood

Great for shoppers, the condo is moments from Fairview Mall, the Shops at Don Mills, and Bayview Village. The area offers an abundance of services, retail stores and dining options along Sheppard Avenue.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

What: Parfait at Atria
Builder: Tridel and Dorsay
Architect: Turner Fleischer Architects Inc.
Interiors: Hefele Makowka Design Associates Inc.
Location: Sheppard Avenue East in North York
Building: 19 storeys with 235 suites
Sizes: From 527 to 1,574 sq. ft.
Pricing: From the low-$300,000s
Suites: One bedroom, one bedroom plus den, two bedroom, two bedroom plus den, three bedroom
Status: Pre-construction, registration phase
Occupancy: Spring 2019
Sales centre: Grand opening at 2255 Sheppard Ave. E., Unit 120
Info: 416-645-8866, tridel.com

ADVICE

Leaky basement big concern

Jeffrey Cowan
For Metro Canada

Q: We are set to close our first house this week and when we went to inspect the property on the weekend, we found a puddle on the floor near the wall. Previously our home inspector had tested the walls with a moisture instrument and they were dry. We think this may be seeping up through the concrete floor. What should we do?

A: The logical option is to holdback funds from the purchase to protect your position in case remedial work is necessary.

Any leaking prior to the closing is the responsibility of the vendor.

However, in speaking with this reader they indicated that the house was power of sale and that there were just enough proceeds to pay back the debtors; with very little to spare.

A holdback worthy of potential foundation work could easily be $20,000, which would effectively scuttle the deal.

The readers really wanted the house so the option to holdback was set aside and the purchasers closed under protest, thereby protecting their rights after closing to pursue the vendor for this problem.

Leaky basements are probably one of the most common problems in Canadian cities where a large swath of homes can be pushing over 100 years old. Caution is extremely important in these circumstances.

REAL ESTATE

What's hot on the market

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1 MISSISSAUGA

Condo promotion: LGO train passengers can have a free Timothy's coffee on Nola condos this Thursday. Check it out at the Port Credit GO rail station, March 3 from 6:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. CONTACT: LIVEATNOLA.COM

2 QUEENS QUAY E.

Open house: Two suites will be shown this weekend at the Pier 27 condominiums on the waterfront. Head over to 29 Queens Quay E., on March 5 and 6 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
CONTACT: ANDREW IPEKIAN, 416-572-1016

3 NORTH YORK

Penthouse release: The Met condominiums, centrally located in downtown Vaughan, is now open for sales. Visit the presentation centre at 7800 Jane St.
CONTACT: 416-862-0888, PUREPLAZA.COM

Toronto welcomes National Home Show

Bryan Tuckey
For Metro Canada

The National Home Show opens March 11 at the Enercare Centre at Exhibition Place, kicking off 10 days of interesting exhibits, exciting celebrities and the latest in everything connected to your home.

Once again the show is co-located with Canada Blooms, Canada's largest flower show, so visitors can enjoy two great shows for the price of one.

BILD and its 1,450 member companies in the land development, home building and professional renovation industry in the Greater Toronto Area are proud to bring you this year's show. We care about homes. They are our business and that's why we started the National Home Show in the 1950s.

Our membership encompasses everything connected to your home from builders and renovators to contractors, designers, decorators, manufacturers and suppliers of all types of home-oriented products.

You will find many of our members exhibiting at the show. They can be identified by the BILD logos on the floor in front of their booths.

A number of our RenoMark professional renovator members will be volunteering at the show and to offer free unbiased renovation advice to attendees as part of our Destination Renovation exhibit. Located at Booth 2130, the exhibit also includes dozens of inspiring before-and-after photos from our annual Renovation and Custom Home Awards.

A major highlight of this year's Show is the Best Buy Smart Home. This home showcases the latest in smart home technology, including security solutions, lighting, appliances and entertainment.

This is a brand new addition to the National Home Show and a great resource for anyone looking to learn about, and more importantly play with the latest connected devices for your home.

Speaking of home comfort, no home is complete without the kitchen. The modern kitchen often doubles as a dining room and even moonlights as a family room where we entertain our guests.

That's why this year's show will showcase the Eat and Entertain Kitchen, presented by Sears. This feature includes live intimate demonstrations from culinary experts cooking with the latest appliances. Attendees will also have an opportunity to learn about the latest trends in kitchen design.

The National Home Show runs March 11-20 at the Enercare Centre at Exhibition Place. Tickets can be purchased online at nationalhomeshow.com. Use the METRO2016 promo code and save $5 off regular adult admission, exclusively for my Metro readers.

BRYAN TUCKEY IS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE BUILDING INDUSTRY AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION AND A LAND-USE PLANNER WHO HAS WORKED FOR MUNICIPAL, REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS. FOLLOW HIM ON TWITTER @BILDGTA, FACEBOOK.COM/BILDGTA, AND BILDBLOGS.CA.

More than a place to store your stuff

HOME DESIGN TRENDS

In the reno world, garages are getting all the attention

Many homeowners would never let sports gear, tools and yard equipment clutter up the front hall where it's the first things guests see.

But they're willing to wend their own way into the house through a garage stuffed with those things, plus patio furniture, bikes, holiday decorations and more, says Todd Carter of Tailored Living featuring PremierGarage, in Reston, Virginia.

The company focuses on renovating and improving garages, and that's a hot area in home renovation, experts say. From cabinetry and shelving, to flooring and overhead storage, there are many new ways to turn a garage into an organized and attractive space for storage, entertaining or working out.

The trend has been made especially possible by today's larger garages.

"The sky's the limit," said Greg Parsons, owner of Motor City Garages in Clarkston, Michigan. "It's all based on the homeowner's stuff."

He routinely outfits garages with high-end, scratch-resistant cabinetry, sinks and epoxy flooring — an easy-to-clean coating that comes in numerous colours and finishes. He recently added a line of cabinetry that lets buyers customize the color to match their car.

Some homeowners end up adding televisions and seating, Parsons said.

Jeff and Linda Marsack of Macomb, Michigan, hired Parsons to organize their two-car garage. They added cabinets to store shoes, sporting equipment and tools. She chose red cabinets to match their kitchen.

"Every time you open your garage, you really do smile because it's so organized," she said.

"Who doesn't love an organized space?"

Professional organizer Melanie Dennis gets many calls from homeowners who want to redo their garage because it's too cluttered to fit a car.

"It's a combination of people not wanting to get rid of their stuff and having access to buy things 24/7 and have it delivered to their house," said Dennis, owner of Neat Streak in Columbus, Ohio.

Families today have more stuff than previous generations did, she said. They decorate for more holidays, have dishes that they only use on special dinners, and hang onto photos and sentimental items with the intent of making scrapbooks, she said.

Bill McDonough, senior vice president and chief marketing officer for M/I Homes, a Columbus-based home builder, agrees.

"The big trend has one word, and that is 'storage,'" he said. "People of all ages have an increasing amount of stuff."

Customers increasingly ask for three-car garages or bump-outs that extend the garage's length or width, McDonough said.

> **"I'm definitely seeing more interest in the garage. It often starts with function and then jumps into fun."**
> Jason Arigoni, Home Depot

The National Association of Homebuilders found that 23 per cent of new homes built in 2014 had three or more garage bays. In 1994, only 13 per cent of new homes had garages that large, according to the Washington-based organization.

Storage products for the garage include wall-mounted panels with slots that can hold everything from pliers to bikes to motorized lifts for hanging golf bags and kayaks. There's cabinetry designed specifically to hold power tools.

Garage renovations are also a popular do-it-yourself project, said Jason Arigoni, field divisional merchandizing manager for Home Depot's Southern Division.

"I'm definitely seeing more interest in the garage," he said. "It often starts with function and then jumps into fun."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bathroom vanities can be used in the garage as a stylish alternative to traditional garage organization. Plus, the sink helps keep garage grime at bay. HOME DEPOT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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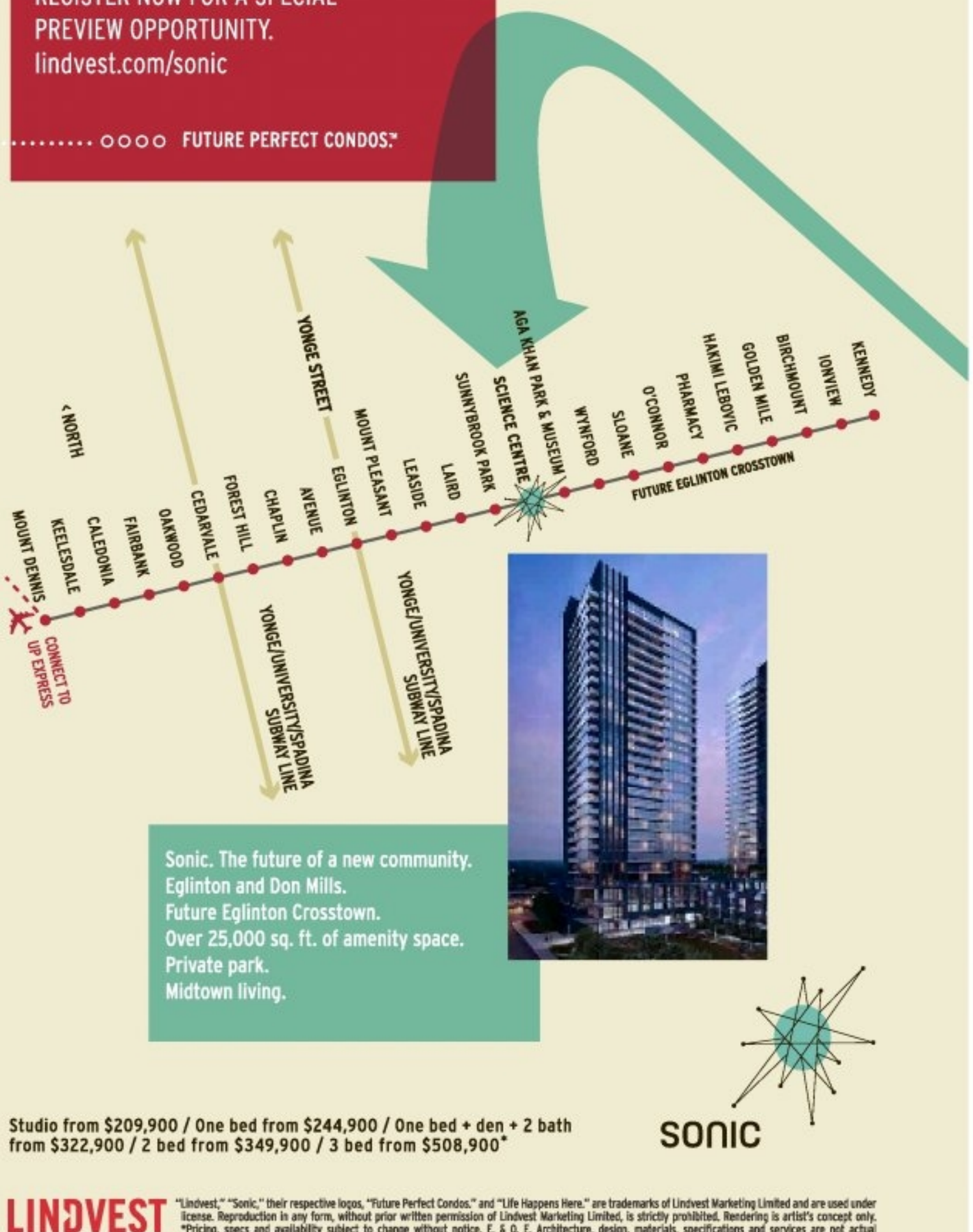

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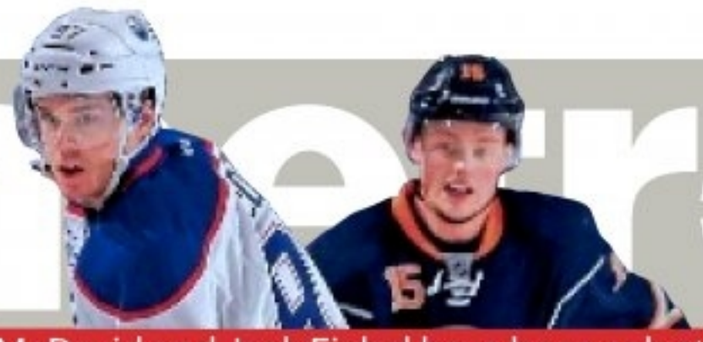


Connor McDavid and Jack Eichel have been selected to the under-23 Team North America roster for this summer's World Cup of Hockey

Jonathan Toews, left, and Sidney Crosby helped Canada win gold at the 2014 Wintery Olympics. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

WORLD CUP OF HOCKEY

Canada sticks to its guns

Mike Babcock will coach a very familiar Team Canada at the World Cup of Hockey.

Twelve of the 16 players selected to Canada's initial roster won gold under Babcock at the 2014 Sochi Olympics, including goaltender Carey Price of the Montreal Canadiens, who has been out of NHL action with an injury. Goalies Braden Holtby of the Washington Capitals and Corey Crawford of the Chicago Blackhawks were also selected to the team.

"The hardest part is the part to come. Not the first 16. My wife could've done that.
Mike Babcock

P.K. Subban, the electric risk-and-reward Canadiens defenceman who played sparingly in Sochi, was left off the first 16 as Canada went with Drew Doughty of the Los Angeles Kings, Shea Weber of the Nashville Predators, Duncan Keith of the Chicago Blackhawks and Marc-Edouard Vlasic of the San Jose Sharks.

Sidney Crosby of the Pittsburgh Penguins and Jonathan Toews of the Blackhawks lead the forward group, which includes only two newcomers: Steven Stamkos of the Tampa Bay Lightning and Tyler Seguin of the Dallas Stars.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Raptors quiet Jazz

NBA

Lowry one-ups Hayward to keep hot streak at home alive

WEDNESDAY At ACC

104	94
RAPTORS	JAZZ

The Toronto Raptors continue to win at the Air Canada Centre.

Kyle Lowry scored 32 points while fellow all-star DeMar DeRozan added 31 as the Raptors beat the Utah Jazz 104-94 Wednesday, stretching their franchise-record home win streak to 11 games.

Terrence Ross added 11 points, while Jonas Valanciunas finished with 10 points and eight rebounds for Toronto (40-19).

Gordon Hayward had 26 points to top the Jazz (28-32) in their fourth straight loss, while Saskatoon-born Trey Lyles finished with six points in 25 minutes.

Lowry was back in the lineup after sitting out the team's 114-101 loss at Detroit on Sunday to rest. That defeat ended a four-game win streak.

Playing their first of seven games in a row at the Air Canada Centre, the Raptors parlayed a strong third quarter into an 85-74 lead heading into the fourth.

The Jazz rallied in the fourth, and when Hayward drained a three-pointer with 4:29 on the clock, it pulled Utah to within 94-90. But Lowry responded with a pair of baskets, and then DeRozan's fast break jump shot with 1:27 to play put Toronto up by eight points in front of a capacity crowd of 19,800.

Lowry's running layup with 59 seconds left put Toronto up by 10 and put the game out of reach.

DeRozan shot 11 for 15 on the night and the Raptors shot 50 per cent from the field. They also out-rebounded their visitors 45-33.

Toronto had previously won 10 games in a row at home, but it was stretched over two seasons — eight games to close 2001-02, then the first two of the following season.

Lowry led the way with 10 points in a tightly-contested first quarter that saw neither team lead by more than three points.

The Jazz led 26-24 after the first then opened the second quarter with a 12-2 run to take a 12-point lead. The Raptors went on a run of their own, and a three-pointer by Lowry four seconds before halftime sent Toronto into the break with a 52-49 lead.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Raptors centre Jonas Valanciunas hangs from the rim after scoring two of his 10 points Wednesday night. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NHL

Leafs battle back but fall to Capitals

Matt Niskanen and the NHL's top power-play unit cashed in yet again as the Washington Capitals outlasted the youthful and overmatched Toronto Maple Leafs 3-2 on Wednesday night.

The Capitals reached 98 points for the season and matched the 1995-96 Detroit Red Wings for the most wins through 63 games with 47. The Maple Leafs remained in last place in the league with 52 points. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nikita Soshnikov celebrates his first NHL goal in Washington. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Chapman says he didn't get physical with girlfriend

A day after accepting a 30-game suspension, New York Yankees closer Aroldis Chapman has apologized for using a gun and insisted he never hurt his girlfriend.

His girlfriend told police he pushed and choked her. Chapman said there was an argument but he was pushed down by Barnea's brother, then got a handgun and fired eight shots into a wall and window while locked in his garage. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHESAPEAKE ENERGY

OKC part-owner dies in fiery crash

Aubrey McClendon, a natural gas industry titan, was killed when police say he drove his sport utility vehicle "straight into a wall" in Oklahoma City on Wednesday, a day after he was indicted on a charge of conspiring to rig bids to buy oil and natural gas leases in northwest Oklahoma.

Police Capt. Paco Balderrama said McClendon, co-founder of Chesapeake Energy and a part-owner of the NBA's Oklahoma City Thunder, was the only occupant in the vehicle when it slammed into a concrete bridge embankment shortly after 9 a.m.

"He pretty much drove straight into the wall," Balderrama said. "The information out there at the scene is that he went left of centre, went through a grassy area right before colliding into the embankment. There was plenty of opportunity for him to correct and get back on the roadway and that didn't occur."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sanchez hopes to gain from pain

Blue Jays Russell Martin, front, and Josh Donaldson warm up on deck during action against the Phillies in Dunedin, Fla. on Wednesday. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

BLUE JAYS

Bulked-up pitcher takes aim at return to team's rotation

Aaron Sanchez set the goal to be in the Toronto Blue Jays 2016 starting rotation the moment they lost to Kansas City in last year's American League Championship Series.

In the five months since, he's been training hard to make that happen.

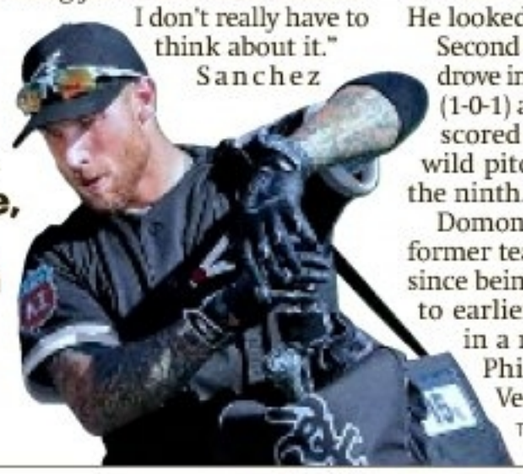
Sanchez worked out with teammate Marcus Stroman all off-season, bulking up his slender frame by adding 25 pounds of muscle. He's already noticed the fruits of that labour.

Aaron Sanchez GETTY IMAGES

"My mechanics are a lot better than they were last year," Sanchez said after pitching two innings in Toronto's 4-4 tie with the Philadelphia Phillies on Wednesday, the Jays' spring home opener. "What I thought was right last year wasn't right.

"With the stability I've got through these workouts everything just comes more natural. I don't really have to think about it." Sanchez

"I was happy for my (former) teammates but at the same time, you wish you could have done that when you were there.
White Sox second baseman Brett Lawrie on his former team's playoff run last fall.



pitched the third and fourth innings, allowing one run on three hits while striking out three.

"I'm just overall (more stable) throughout my delivery," the 23-year-old said. "Where I thought things were going right last year they weren't and that's because I wasn't stable and strong enough to do that stuff."

Manager John Gibbons said Sanchez "looks like a big leaguer" with his new physique.

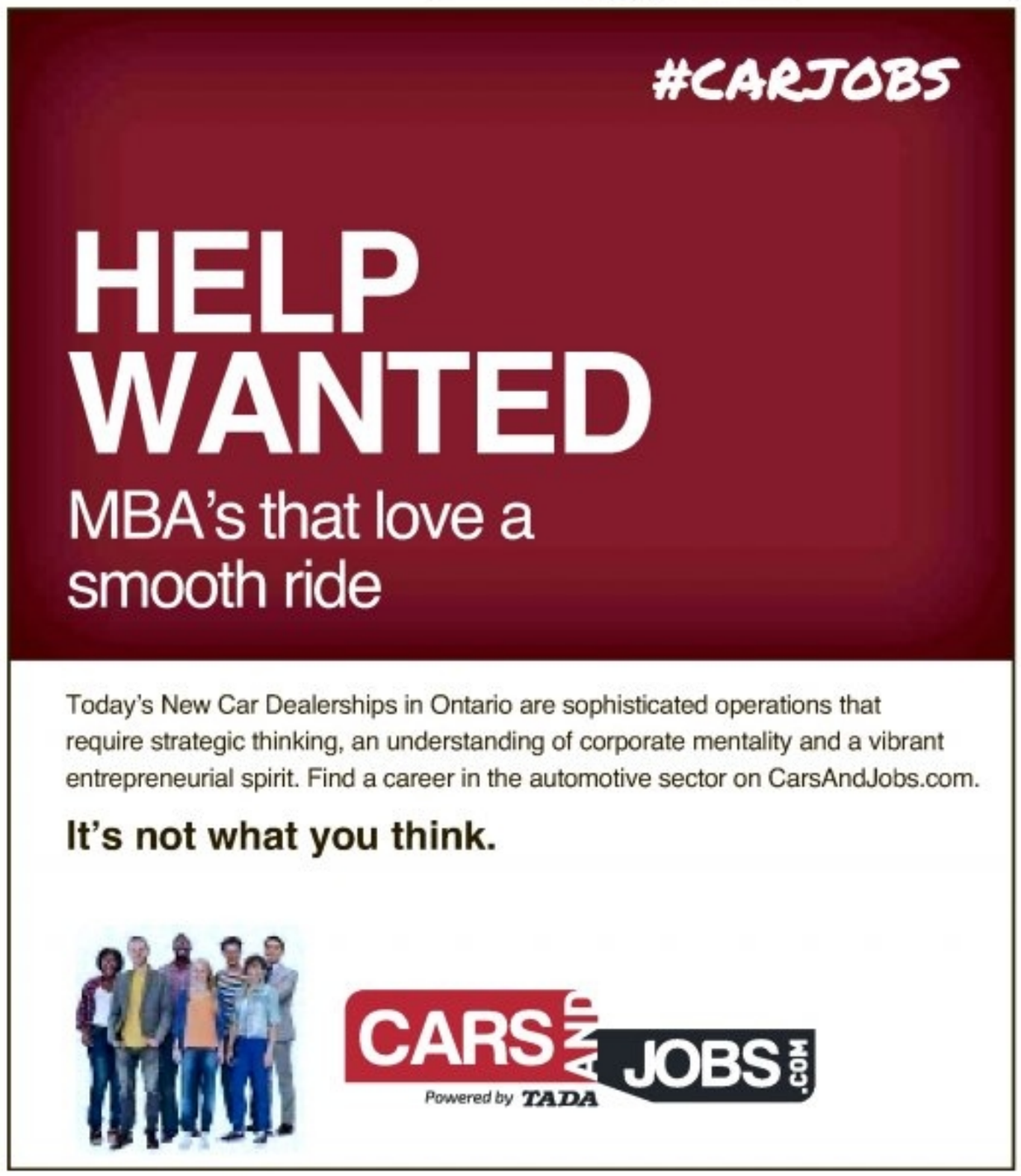
"He's turned into a man," Gibbons said. "He looks strong. If he feels that's a big part of it, it probably helps his balance and all that.

"He's only going to get better and better over the years. He looked good."

Second baseman Ryan Goins drove in two runs for Toronto (1-0-1) and Dwight Smith Jr. scored the tying run on a wild pitch in the bottom of the ninth.

Domonic Brown, facing his former team for the first time since being acquired by Toronto earlier this spring, drove in a run with a single off Philadelphia's Vincent Velasquez in the fourth.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Arsenal, Spurs and City all lose ground

1 Harry Kane and Tottenham couldn't find the mark at West Ham.

2 Emre Can and Liverpool shut down Sergio Aguero's Man City.

3 Arsene Wenger's Arsenal dropped all three points to Swansea.

ALL GETTY IMAGES

EPL ROUNDUP

Leicester stay top after trio of defeats for chasing pack

Leicester strengthened its position atop the Premier League without even playing on Wednesday, after its three main title rivals all lost to cap another unpredictable round in England's top division.

Tottenham could have climbed above Leicester into first place — for the first time in the second half of the season in 21 years — with a win at West Ham, but lost 1-0 through Michail Antonio's early goal.

Third-place Arsenal couldn't take advantage, losing 2-1 at home to Swansea despite taking the lead against the relegation contenders. Manchester City completed a miserable evening for the title hopefuls by getting beaten 3-0 at Liverpool, where City has now only won once in 35 years in the league. Liverpool avenged its defeat on a penalty shootout to City in the League Cup final on Sunday with a ruthless display of pressing and clinical finishing.

It left Leicester still with a three-point lead over Tottenham, with Arsenal a further three points back with 10 games left. City is 10 points off the lead and now looking over its shoulder at teams fighting to make it into the top four and qualify for the Champions League. Manchester United is tied on points with City after beating Watford 1-0 at Old Trafford thanks to Juan Mata's free kick in the 83rd minute.

West Ham is a point behind the Manchester clubs and even Stoke, which beat Newcastle 1-0 in Wednesday's other game, isn't out of the top-four race in seventh. Spurs and Arsenal meet Saturday in arguably the biggest north London derby since their FA Cup semifinal in 1991. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DIVISION TABLE

	GP	W-D-L	Pts.
Leicester	28	16-9-3	57
Tottenham	28	15-9-4	54
Arsenal	28	15-6-7	51
Man. City	27	14-5-8	47
Man.United	28	13-8-7	47
West Ham	28	12-10-6	46
Stoke City	28	12-6-10	42
Liverpool	27	11-8-8	41
S'hampton	28	11-7-10	40
Chelsea	28	10-9-9	39
Everton	27	9-11-7	38
Watford	28	10-7-11	37
West Brom	28	9-9-10	36
Crys. Palace	28	9-6-13	33
B'mouth	28	8-8-12	32
Swansea	28	7-9-12	30
Sunderland	28	6-6-16	24
Norwich	28	6-6-16	24
Newcastle	27	6-6-15	24
Aston Villa	28	3-7-18	16

Champions League
Europa League
Relegation

AROUND EUROPE

IN GERMANY

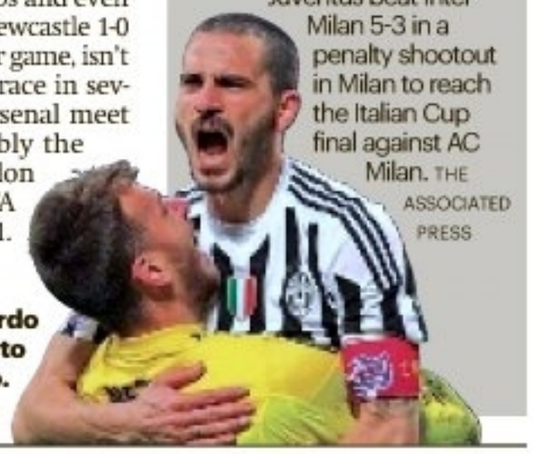
Jhon Cordoba scored late to give Mainz a stunning 2-1 win at Bayern Munich on Wednesday. Borussia Dortmund won 2-0 at Darmstadt and are five points back of the league lead ahead of Saturday's showdown at home to Bayern.

IN SPAIN

Cristiano Ronaldo converted a first-half penalty to lead Real Madrid to a 3-1 win at last-place Levante in the Spanish league, keeping his team third in the standings.

IN ITALY

Leonardo Bonucci converted the decisive spot-kick as Juventus beat Inter Milan 5-3 in a penalty shootout in Milan to reach the Italian Cup final against AC Milan. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Juventus's Leonardo Bonucci and Norberto Murara Neto. GETTY IMAGES

MLS

Warner traded due to TFC's midfield jam

Facing a logjam in midfield, Toronto FC sent Collen Warner to the Houston Dynamo for a conditional second-round pick in the 2017 MLS SuperDraft.

The pick could turn into a first-rounder depending on 27-year-old Warner's production with Houston and how the Dynamo fare, according to a source.

With captain Michael Bradley, Benoit Cheyrou and Canadians Will Johnson and Jonathan Osorio competing for roles in Toronto's three-man midfield, Warner became expendable.

"With our current depth in midfield, we felt we could make a move to acquire a future asset and we've accomplished that with this deal," Toronto FC GM Tim Bezbatchenko said in a statement Wednesday.

Combined with the waiving of forward Herculez Gomez, the trade left Toronto's roster at 25 players. Mo Babouli, an academy product who excelled at training camp, is expected to be rewarded with a first-team contract soon. THE CANADIAN PRESS

51

Amonut of times Collen Warner played for TFC, contributing two goals and four assists.

IN BRIEF

IOC picks potential refugee athletes for Rio Games

Olympic officials have identified 43 candidates for a team of refugee athletes who will compete in the Summer Games in Rio de Janeiro in a "message of hope" for refugees around the world, the IOC said Wednesday.

IOC president Thomas Bach said he expects a team of between five and 10 athletes will compete under the Olympic flag as "Team Refugee Olympic Athletes." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Argos sign vet Hickman

The Toronto Argonauts signed veteran American defensive lineman Justin Hickman on Wednesday.

The six-foot-two, 265-pounder spent five seasons with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats (2009-11, 2014-15) and also played two years with the Indianapolis Colts (2012-13). Hickman registered 181 tackles, 36 sacks and seven forced fumbles in 79 games with Hamilton. THE CANADIAN PRESS

47%

With five months to go to the Olympics Brazilian organizers are struggling to sell tickets. They said that only 47 per cent of the 7.5 million tickets on offer have been sold so far. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SKIING

Vonn's season ends due to knee injury

A hairline fracture in her left knee didn't deter Lindsey Vonn. Still, she raced. Three significant-sized fractures that could — if they became any worse — lead to surgery and possibly an end to her career? Now that got the attention of the all-time winningest female World Cup skier.

Vonn announced Wednesday that she was leaving the racing circuit early after an MRI revealed the injury in her tibial plateau — the top of the shinbone at the knee joint — was more serious than first believed. She crashed over the weekend, but competed the next day.

And this was shaping up for quite a finish, too. With eight races to go, Vonn leads the overall World Cup standings with 1,235 points, followed closely by Lara Gut of Switzerland with 1,207. Viktoria Rebensburg of Germany is third with 914.

"Because I am currently leading the overall World Cup standings, this is one of the toughest decisions of my career," Vonn said on her Facebook page. "While I am confident that I'm making the right decision, it still doesn't make this decision any easier." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lindsey Vonn GETTY IMAGES

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RECIPE Chili Chicken Burgers

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This burger, loaded with cheese and guacamole, will make you forget it's not even beef with its warm spice blend. It will also make you forget it's healthier too.

Ready in
Prep time: 20 minutes
Total time: 45 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 1 clove garlic, minced really fine
- 1/2 red onion, minced fine
- 1 tsp cumin
- 1 Tbsp chili powder
- Pinch of salt and pepper
- 1 egg, whisked
- 1 lb ground chicken
- 4 thin slices of cheddar
- 3/4 to 1 cup guacamole
- Lettuce, tomato and whatever else you like on a burger
- 4 buns

Crema
- 1 small (250 ml) container of sour cream
- 1/4 cup fresh lime juice
- 1/4 cup fresh cilantro, chopped
- Pinch of salt and pepper

Directions
1. In a small bowl, stir together the Crema ingredients.
2. Have a clean plate ready to place your burger patties on. In a large bowl, combine burger ingredients up to ground chicken. Shape the meat into patties.
3. Add a touch of oil to your pan and warm it up over medium heat. Put patties in and allow them to cook on the first side for about 5 minutes. Flip them over and cook 2 or 3 minutes before placing the slices of cheese on top. Place a lid on the pan or cover with foil to help the cheese melt. Use a meat thermometer to make sure the internal temperature is 165 F.
4. Toast buns to keep them from getting soggy. Spread Crema on the bottom bun, add lettuce, burger, guac and top with the bun.

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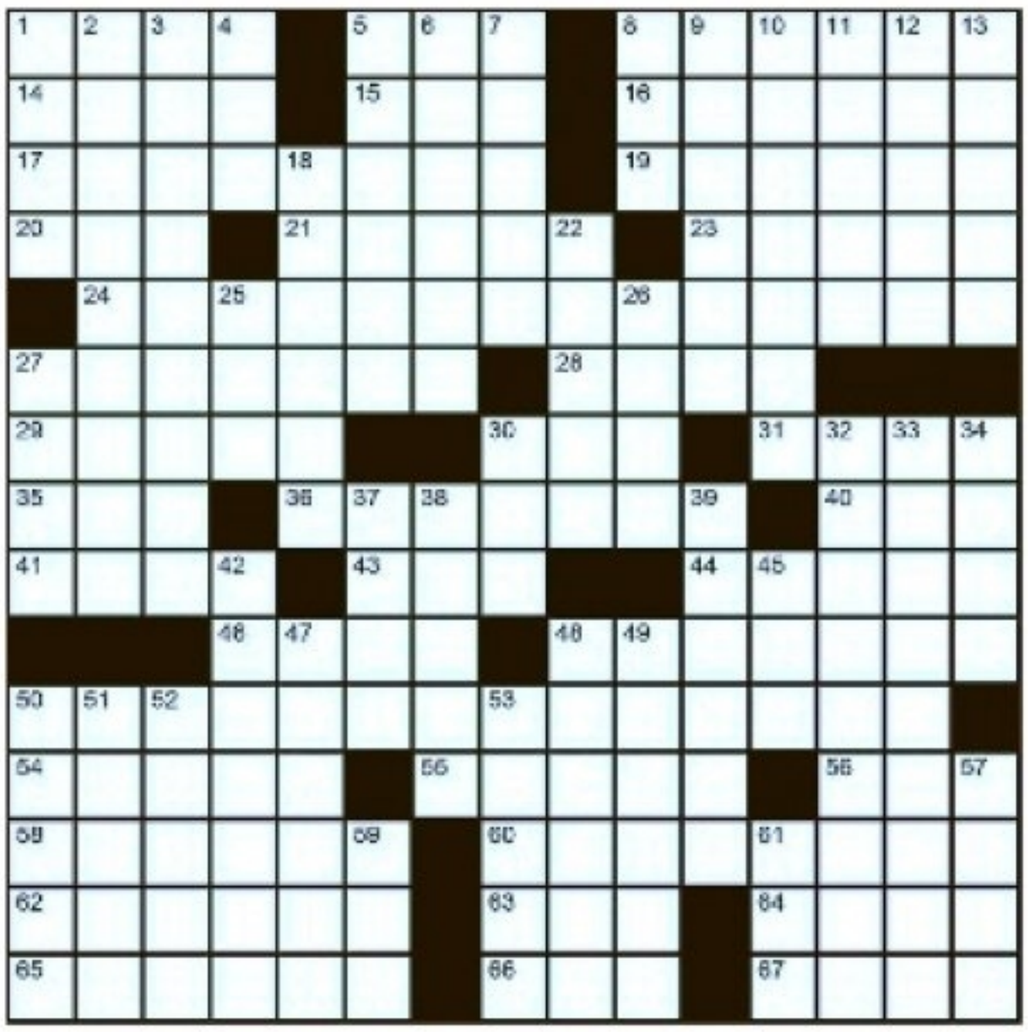
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Police alerts, e.g.
5. Aves.
8. Conquer
14. Oman money
15. Comedian/actress Margaret
16. Jim-Bob Walton's mother
17. Agree to an agreement in pen: 3 wds.
19. Nurses, for example
20. Twisted Sister singer Mr. Snider
21. "__ of Old Smoky"
23. Literary sleuth Mr. Wolfe's
24. Polar Bears, but not Penguins: 2 wds.
27. Messy stain
28. Mexico currency
29. Turn __ (Move past something)
30. River islet
31. Pickup trucks, e.g.
35. Class
36. Windows icons area
40. "_, _ get it!"
41. Bee Gees: "How __ Is Your Love"
43. Co. for commuters in Toronto
44. Legendary choreographer Mr. Ailey
46. __ Sanctorum (Collection of the biographies of Christian saints)
48. Stephane Dion, Minister of __ Affairs
50. Renowned Toronto artists group of the 1950s: 2 wds.
54. Ladder 'levels'
55. Affordable noodle dish
56. Cost
58. Home of Odysseus
60. Like the works by #50-Across
62. Vowel-friendly Ontario village
63. "Surprise!"
64. Prefix meaning 'Within'
65. Work at getting even more paint off
66. Train __.
67. Glenn Frey's "The Heat __"

DOWN
1. Dry
2. Ananas, in Angleterre
3. Called 'The Centre of Canada', it's the only inland community in Nunavut: 2 wds.
4. Mid-'70s kidnappers
5. Picturesque
6. Shakespeare's Globe roof style
7. Funkadelic's "One Nation Under a Groove" bit: "__ you can't get under it..."
8. Leader of Sneezy's band
9. Some antelopes
10. It'll crackle/glow giving warmth
11. "...if __ saw one!"
12. Keep an __ mystery
13. Parisian 'cup'
18. Like contract lines
22. Songbird sort
25. Gear tooth
26. Jared __
27. Remarked
30. U.S. dog org.
32. Lovers of dramas, Oscars, scenes, etc.: 2 wds.
33. __ Bay (Bay of Fundy inlet)
34. __ Fein (Irish republican party)
37. 'Bachelor' suffix
38. Beatles drummer Ringo
39. Mother or father
42. Prehistoric supercontinent
45. After-Exodus bk.
47. Hospital diagnostic tool, e.g.: letters + wd.
48. 'Austin Powers' techie temptress
49. "Little House on the Prairie" character Nellie's surname
50. Busybody
51. Other: French
52. "The Shoop Shoop Song (It's __ Kiss)"
53. Swedish cars
57. Certain collar
59. Accounting review, briefly
61. King, in Portugal

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You will gain a new perspective on what's important and what your long-term ambitions should be. Don't hold on too tightly to what you've got because what's coming next will be so much better.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You may look calm on the outside but on the inside your emotions are bubbling and what happens next will bring them to the boil. That's good. It isn't healthy to keep all that passion and aggression bottled up inside.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Things may not have worked out the way you hoped they would but there's no need to worry about it and even less need to change directions.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You may be tempted to tear down something it took you a lot of time and effort to build, simply because it is not up to the high standards you set for yourself, but the planets warn you will regret it if you do. Stop being so hard on yourself.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Act on your feelings. No matter how unpopular it might make you, if that little voice in your head says it is the right thing to do you should know better than to ignore it. Act now!

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Don't take chances with money, even more so if it belongs to other people. Wait and see what the weekend brings before taking risks.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
At times you wonder why you put up with someone's bad behaviour. So why do you? Most likely there is no reason at all, so get your act together and get them out of your life once and for all. You will feel better for it.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Try not to make an issue of whatever it is you are expected to do today. Take it in your stride. It will only get complicated if you make it complicated — so don't!

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Find a positive outlet for all that energy you've got inside you. Affairs of the heart and creative activities are well-starred, so focus on these and avoid anything negative.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Cosmic activity in the domestic area of your chart will reach critical mass today. If there is some kind of explosion the results should be positive. At the very least you will know why a loved one needs more attention.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Don't waste time arguing with people whose views are wrong. It's highly unlikely you'll convince them, so let them keep on making mistakes while you keep on having fun.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
There will be changes in your money situation. Whether they are good or bad remains to be seen but if you approach them in a sensible manner you won't be out of pocket for long.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

9	6			4			2	8
2		4	5	9		3		7
			8					
						2	6	
6	4		3	7	5		8	9
	5	1						
					9			
1		6		3	7	8		4
4	3			1			9	2

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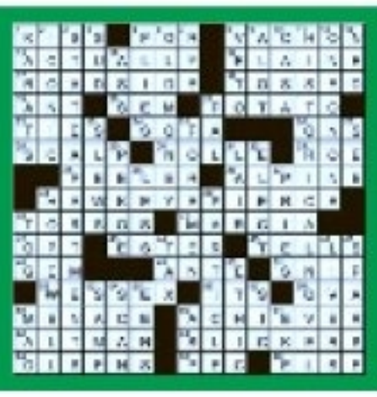

4	1	7	8	6	2	3	5	9
2	3	8	4	5	9	6	7	1
6	9	5	7	3	1	2	4	8
9	4	3	6	8	7	5	1	2
8	7	6	2	1	5	9	3	4
5	2	1	9	4	3	8	6	7
7	8	4	5	2	6	1	9	3
1	6	9	3	7	8	4	2	5
3	5	2	1	9	4	7	8	6

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